

RIO DE JANEIRO NEWS.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 1908

NUMBER 3

OFFICIAL DIRECTORY

AMERICAN LEGATION.—157, Rua das Laranjeiras.
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II. C. TUCKER, Pastor.
Portuguese services: Sunday School 10 a.m., preaching
7:30 p.m. Sundays; prayer-meeting, 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays.
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Residence: Rua Senador Cordeiro, B. 1.
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Services in Portuguese at 11 o'clock, a.m., and 7 o'clock,
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Services in Portuguese every Sunday at 11 o'clock, a.m.,
and 7 o'clock, p.m., every Sunday; and at 7 o'clock,
p.m., Sunday School at 10 o'clock, a.m.
E. H. SOPER, Missionary. W. B. BAGBY, Pastor.
Residence: Rua de Santos Rodrigues N. 6.
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BRITISH BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.—Subscriptions are
eagerly solicited. Communications should be addressed
to the Hon. Secretary—D. ROBERTS, Caixa do Correo, 75.

TRAVELLER'S DIRECTORY

RAILWAYS.

DOM PEDRO II.—Through Expresses: Central train
leaves Rio at 5 a.m.; arrives at Barra do Piraí 7:20, Entre
Rios 9:20 and Itaboraí (terminus) at 7:50 p.m. São Paulo train
leaves Rio at 6 a.m. arrives at Barra at 8:15 a.m. and Cachoeira,
where passengers for São Paulo must change, at 11:15 p.m. From
Entre Rios train leaves at 10:20 a.m. arriving at Porto Novo
da Cunha at 12:45. Donatista train leaves Barra at 9:15
a.m. Cachoeira (S. Paulo branch) 12:20 p.m. Porto Novo
1:15 p.m. and leave Barra at 5:10 a.m. arriving in Rio at 6:45
and the Central train at 8 p.m.
Limited Express, leaves Rio at 7 a.m.; arrives at Barra
at 10:20. Entre Rios at 2:20 and Maracanã (terminus) at
6:50 p.m. S. Paulo branch leaves Barra at 1:30 and arrives
at Cachoeira at 6:25 p.m. From Barra train leaves at
3:15 p.m. and arrives at Porto Novo at 6:05. Donatista
train leaves Maracanã (terminus) at 5:00 a.m. Cachoeira 5:50
and Porto Novo 5:50, arriving at Rio at 5:10 p.m.
Mixed Trains, leave Rio at 8:30 and 9:50 a.m. at 3:15 and
5:30 p.m. first goes to Barra Rio arriving at 8:03 p.m. second
and third to Barra arriving at 9:10 a.m. and 11:25 p.m. and
third to Barra arriving at 7:30. Donatista train leaves Barra
Rio at 4:30 a.m. arriving at Barra 9:17 and Rio at 5:10 p.m.
leave Barra at 4:30 and 5:20 a.m. arriving in Rio at 6:15 a.m. and
1:15 p.m. and leave Barra at 5:10 a.m. arriving in Rio at 7:50
p.m.
Night service: Train leaves Rio at 10 p.m. every Friday,
arriving at Barra at 12:30 and Porto Novo at 5 a.m. Donatista
train leaves Porto Novo at 10:50 p.m. every Monday,
arriving at Barra at 3:15 and Rio at 5:50 a.m.
S. PAULO AND RIO.—Train leaves Cachoeira at 12:25
p.m. arriving at S. Paulo at 6:00 p.m. Donatista train leaves
S. Paulo at 6:00 a.m. and arrives at Cachoeira at 12:20 p.m.
where passengers change to the D. Pedro II line.
CANTAGALLO R.R.—Leaves Niterói (Sant'Ana)
7 a.m., arriving at Nova Friburgo 10:30. Cordeiro (1 hour
per trainway from Cantagallo) 11:20. Return train leaves
Cordeiro at 11:20. Nova Friburgo 12:20. S. Paulo, arriving at
Niterói 3:10 p.m. A special Nova Friburgo excursion
train leaves Niterói at 3:15 p.m. and Nova Friburgo at
5 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Ferry boat
runs between Rio and Sant'Ana, connecting with trains.
CORCOVADO R.R.—Trains leave the Station at Cosme
Velho, Laranjeiras, at 6, 8, 10, and 12 a.m. and 2, 4 and
6 p.m. on Sundays and holidays; and at 6:30 and 8:30 a.m.
and at 2 and 5:30 p.m. on week-days.
PETROPOLIS STEAMERS AND R.R.—Steamers leave
Tramway at 4 p.m. on week-days, and 7 a.m. Sundays
and holidays. Return train leaves Petropolis at 7:30 a.m.
week-days, and 4 p.m. Sundays and holidays. Mixed
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BIBLIOTHECA PLUMINENSIS.—No. 62, Rua do Our
vidio.
MUSEU NACIONAL.—Praça da Aclamação, 101. Rua da
Constituição.
GABINETE PORTUGUEZ DE ESCRITURA.—No. 12
Rua Luiz de Camões.

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Dr. Cleary, Physician and Surgeon. Residence: 37, Rua
do Senador Vergueiro; Office: 87, Rua da Herculina
12 10 3 (B.H.).
Dr. W. J. Fairbairn, M. D. Edin. Surgeon and Physician.
Office: Rua 1^a de Março, No. 92 from 11 to 7 p.m., and
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for the mail packets of the 5th, 15th and 24th of the month.

A. J. LAMOURÉUX, Editor and Proprietor.

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RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 24th, 1888.

THE present aspect of the emancipation movement in the province of São Paulo affords the first genuine ray of hope in all these long years following the adoption of the law of 1871. If one could divest these legislative acts of all the gilt and drapery with which injudicious admirers have covered them, there would certainly remain much less for praise than the world fondly imagines. This law of 1871 was without doubt the result of many forces outside of the sentiment in favor of emancipation. The subsequent history of the country shows that it was not the sentiment of humanity which led many, perhaps a majority, to vote for the freedom of all children of slave mothers, for they qualified their act with twenty-one years of enforced servitude, and then resolutely opposed all further steps toward accelerated emancipation. Even Rio Branco himself was strongly opposed to any greater measure of abolition. Over sixteen years have now passed away, and the problem of emancipation and the transformation of labor is still unsettled. Gradual emancipation has been proved a costly failure, for it has settled nothing, nor has it prepared the way for a new order of things. The great majority of planters are as unprepared to-day for the impending change as they were in 1871—less, perhaps, for they are weaker and more heavily burdened with debt now than then. And as for the slaves, the freedmen, and the free-born children of slaves, nothing whatever has been done to prepare them for the change which is breaking in upon their lives, nor to provide them with homes and employment. Thus far the planter has not thought of them as a future free laboring class, but has calculated upon their abandoning his lands and upon the necessity of supplying their places with immigrants. The recent emancipation movement in São Paulo, however, has thrown light upon this question as well as upon that of profitably employing free labor in place of the slaves. The recent wholesale liberation of the slaves has not only been accompanied by agreements for their retention on the plantations as paid laborers, but also by the actual hiring of freedmen and fugitives in large parties just as immigrants are hired. The movement has only just begun, but the possibility of securing freedmen as paid laborers may be considered as fully demonstrated. We have always urged the certainty of this result, for the negro is more tractable and quite as industrious as most of the races of laborers known. We have believed that the freedmen of this country could

easily be turned into its best and most reliable laboring element, and we sincerely trust that the good sense of São Paulo planters will enable them to prove this to the satisfaction of the whole country. It needs only a good measure of kindness and justice in their treatment, and, in our opinion, the result is assured.

OUR transatlantic friends who have been so thoughtful as to send us parcels of late newspapers by the pursers of mail steamers, may as well suspend their efforts. We are not unmindful of their courteous attentions, nor are we desirous of having them suspended; but as we are residents of a country whose officials appear to consider it their duty to exercise arbitrary authority over small things, these kind offices are very often diverted and treated as offenses. It is reasonable to suppose that if a purser is permitted and is willing to accept a small parcel of late papers as he is leaving port, to be delivered to an editor on the other side of the ocean, he is perfectly within his rights in so doing, and no one is prejudiced by the act. Here, however, the case is viewed differently. It is customary in Brazilian official circles to consider all mole hills as mountains. Whenever an officer wishes to gain a reputation for zeal, his only idea is to bully third-class passengers, make much out of small things, and exercise an arbitrary authority wherever it is possible. It has so happened in regard to these parcels of papers. Under a new *guarda-mór*, who appears to have started out on the supposition that everything done at this port is irregular and illegal, these parcels were first seized and sent to the custom house. When the absurdity of this act became apparent, then the parcels were sent to the postoffice, where a delay of twenty-four hours ensued and an exorbitant charge for back postage was made. As this not little official arrangement failed in its purpose, the parcels are now seized and destroyed (or confiscated) without any notice whatever. It is a very small business for a big government to be engaged in, but it is probably about as large as the average official can grapple. We know the task is giving these energetic officers a great deal of hard work and anxious thought, and it will be an act of mercy therefore if our friends will kindly suspend the remission of these parcels in the future, as they are not to be permitted to reach our hands even if it takes every official in the country to block the way.

WHILE Dr. Figueiredo de Magalhães is "pulverising" Dr. Monat in the paid columns of the *Jornal do Commercio*, it may be as well to inform those parties, and all others of their profession, that the practice of publishing such discussions in a daily newspaper is decidedly objectionable. If there are any grounds for a professional controversy, then let it be carried on in a medical journal. The public in general neither understands nor cares for such matters, and decent people would prefer that subjects unfit for conversation should be kept out of newspaper columns. It is useless to expect the publishers of the *Jornal* to use any discretion in such matters, for they are ready to accept anything, however abusive and filthy it may be, providing it is paid for and the legal responsibility is assumed by someone else. The moral responsibility of such publications never is thought of. It is bad enough to have the private quarrels of professional men aired in the public press, but when it comes to quarrels between medical men over disgusting operations, then it is full time to complain. There can certainly be no *esprit de corps* in a profession which sanctions and indulges in such controversies. A quack, or a charlatan, who wishes to advertise himself and gain notoriety at

whatever cost, might be expected to publish such articles in the public newspapers, but no physician of high standing would think of such a thing. It is true that we are not obliged to read such articles, but that does not answer the objection. Public morality requires that immorality shall be suppressed and things of unseemly and contaminating influences shall not be paraded in public. The respectable people of this city have had to stand too much of this already, and it is full time to have it stopped.

THE comparison of the bank statements at the end of the years 1886 and 1887 does not furnish any proof that the financial position of the empire, as represented by the banking establishments of the capital and of São Paulo, improved during the latter year. Two new banks appear in our table; the "Internacional" established here and the "Lavoura", with its headquarters in São Paulo. An analysis of the statements show that whereas the paid-up capital of the banks has increased from 78,560,000\$ to 99,755,000\$, deposits are reduced from 113,362,000\$ to 106,865,000\$. Bills discounted were 51,961,000\$ at the end of 1886, and were at 43,333,000\$ at the end of 1887, and this is certainly a proof that credit has been seriously weakened. On the other side, call loans, or temporary advances, have increased from 72,946,000\$ to 80,965,000\$. This increase appears to us a still stronger proof of the lack of confidence on the part of lenders, who prefer to have their money at call, rather than employ it in legitimate commerce. The custom of employing a considerable proportion of deposits in these advances on securities, of not always unquestionable character, we consider extremely dangerous, for if a crisis should from any cause arise, at the very moment the banks will be pressing their debtors the markets for even the best securities will be demoralized, and loss must inevitably ensue. Investments in government stocks show an increase from 25,641,000\$ to 28,118,000\$, but the Banco Internacional shows among its assets 4,833,000\$ of government securities, so that the other banks have disposed of about 2,400,000\$ of their most valuable assets. About 3,800,000\$ of other than government securities appear as an increase in the assets. Mortgages are about 1,000,000\$ more than in 1886, and accounts in liquidation have increased from 7,040,000\$ at the end of 1886 to 9,502,000\$ at the same date in 1887. Reserve funds show the ridiculous increase of about 100,000\$, but the Banco Rural e Hypothecario distributed a bonus among the subscribers to its call for an increase of capital, amounting apparently to about 900,000\$. Circulation and hypothecary notes show about 1,400,000\$ increase; the Bank of Brazil reducing its issues by some 1,900,000\$, this increase shows the extra issue of the three *credit foncier* banks, which is at a large discount and does not represent current funds. The large increase of banking capital, nearly 22,000,000\$, leads to the inquiry as to the source from which this money emanated. The London and Brazilian Bank increased its capital by £125,000, say 1,112,000\$, which is foreign money; deposits contributed about 6,500,000\$ and the Treasury appears to have advanced the Bank of Brazil some 10,000,000\$, leaving about 2,500,000\$ which appears to have been withdrawn from other investments for employment in bank shares. We state that the Treasury advance had contributed to the increase in capital, for the cash balances were 15,812,000\$ in 1886 and 15,274,000\$ in 1887, so that the money borrowed by the Bank of Brazil has gone somewhere, and it is plausible to consider it has been employed in the manner we note. As the Bank of

Brazil holds an exceptional position, being the only bank of issue, and is considered to be to a certain extent a government institution, we will not be charged with any invidiousness in comparing its statements at the dates we are reviewing. On December 31st, 1886, the bank held of Treasury notes 25,140,000\$; on December 31st, 1887, this amount had increased to 27,514,000\$. In 1886 bills discounted stood at 27,018,000\$; in 1887 at 20,380,000\$. In 1886 call loans represented 24,842,000\$, against 22,129,000\$ in 1887. Public funds and other securities show slight increases, say 1,200,000\$ together, but mortgages are no less than 3,000,000\$ less. Accounts in liquidation were 4,293,000\$ in 1886, against 6,185,000\$ in 1887. These are the principal changes in the assets. On the other side of the account we find the following modifications: reserve fund, 6,762,000\$ in 1886 and 7,299,000\$ in 1887; circulation and hypothecary notes 18,471,000\$ and 16,507,000\$ respectively; deposits 47,613,000\$ in 1886 and 45,263,000\$ in 1887. The bank held on December 31st, 1886, 19,378,000\$ of Treasury money, while at the same date in 1887 it owed the Treasury for the advance mentioned above, about 10,000,000\$. It must be confessed that these figures should cause the most serious consideration from the directors and shareholders of the Bank of Brazil, and particularly from the rulers at the department of finance. It is evident that the money market in Rio is in so delicate a condition, that a trifle might precipitate a crash. We know, and recognize, that the authority held by the Treasury to issue up to 25,000,000\$ in paper money upon the deposit of securities is likely to palliate, if not entirely avert, any thing like such crises as we have seen in England and the United States in our own days; but it cannot be denied that the money market here has been allowed to drift into the condition we describe, and we greatly fear that the blame may be directly cast upon the present minister of finance. From his taking the portfolio of the department, Sr. Belisario has been beset with the firm idea that as exchange was ruling at low rates currency must be withdrawn, for these low rates proved that it was superabundant. Not one ordinary commercial estimate was made as to the increasing needs of the country for currency, through the payments of wages to immigrants, who are substituting the unpaid negro, nor of the amount hoarded by railway and other laborers; not even the evident heavy demand certain to be made on this market from the northern provinces so soon as the crops commenced to move. No provision was made; Sr. Belisario, minister of finance, had determined that our currency was superabundant and this dictum must not be controverted! We do not believe that the rise in exchange which has been so marked lately, has in any manner been influenced by the financial policy of the minister. It has arisen from extraneous causes, and such as we believe are transitory. Of course the fact of the Treasury not appearing as a buyer of exchange is a possible factor, but how can this be proved? The *Jornal* positively states that the "kiting" credit for £2,000,000 was not used, and unless secret arrangements have been made the Treasury must have taken exchange to meet its foreign engagements. Now comes another feature. Merely presuming—for it is but a hypothesis—that it may not suit, or may become impossible for the Bank of Brazil to take up the 10,000,000\$ loan from the Treasury, will the amounts of the hypothecated securities, presumably Treasury notes, be withdrawn at the maturity of these, or will the currency remain in circulation as a proof that Brazil's one superfluity is too much currency?

REGARDING IMMIGRATION.

We have lately received several letters from the United States asking for information in regard to the openings for young men in Brazil. The general impression is that Brazil is a new country like the western part of the United States, Australia and South Africa, and that there must be opportunities for enterprise and speculation similar to those offered by all such countries. Those, therefore, who have no employment, or who are not satisfied with their present occupations and opportunities, sometimes think of trying their fortunes here just as they would in California, or Nebraska, or Texas.

It is a difficult and thankless task to undertake the correction of mistaken opinions, or to give advice in so important a matter as that of selecting a new home. Generally it is much better for the intending emigrant to go and see for himself, always taking good care to provide himself with funds to pay his expenses home again. Where it is not possible to make such a journey, he should first satisfy himself whether he is prepared to implicitly accept the information and advice of an absolute stranger.

Now, in regard to the inducements offered to immigrants by Brazil, there are two widely different opinions—one affirmative, and one negative. There are many people in this country who honestly believe that the inducements offered are exceptionally good, and there are others who can find nothing comparable with those held out by other countries. Perhaps a position between these two extremes, based on clearly drawn conditions, would be nearer the truth. Under existing conditions here we have very little faith in Brazil as a field for immigration, but this position is largely based upon political and social conditions which might within a short period of time be greatly changed. In general terms, we do not consider that this country offers one single inducement for an American to make it his permanent home. For the half-starved peasantry of some European countries, whose overcrowded condition and antiquated customs weigh heavily on the lower classes, the country certainly does offer inducements, for such people do find opportunities here for gaining a better livelihood. They can not easily make their condition worse, while a very little may improve it. To such the experiment may be worth the trial. Brazil might easily do more for them, but until she does they have the choice between two unfavorable conditions of life.

For an Englishman, and especially for an American, the case is radically different. His language, education, traditions, tastes, principles, laws, all differ widely from what he will find in Brazil. It is not a new country in the sense familiar to him, for it is dominated by feudal ideas and has within it nothing of the freshness and vigor of the new world. Its agriculture has thus far depended upon slave labor, which is now being substituted by contract labor. It has few manufactures and but a limited necessity for skilled labor. Its desirable lands are held in large estates, and its provisions for the sale of its public lands to immigrants are illiberal and onerous. Its political institutions are monarchical and aristocratic, and it has no local government worthy of the name. The religion of the state is that of the Roman Catholic church, and a Protestant has therefore very little chance of obtaining political preferment. It has no public school system like those of the United States and Canada, public education is largely under the control of church influences, and private schools are subjected to burdensome and irritating restrictions. The opportunities for manual labor, under

conditions acceptable to an Anglo-Saxon, are very few, the costs of living are high, taxation is heavy, and the prospects of acquiring moderate wealth through patient industry and economy are very slight.

What Brazil might be is another question; what she is, and must continue to be under present dominating influences, is the vital question for the emigrant. There has been some slight prosperity among the German colonies of the south, but nothing to compare with what their countrymen have found in the United States. No Anglo-Saxon colony has yet succeeded, nor is it probable that they can succeed under present conditions. When the American can find no room for himself in his own country and is prepared to patiently submit to privations and institutional conditions which he would not stand for a moment at home, then he may think seriously of emigrating to Brazil.

(Concluded from our last.)

THE PAST YEAR.

The business record of the year just closed is one of exceptional interest, as it was of unusual character and great disaster. The marked diminution in the quantity of coffee marketed was more than counterbalanced by the higher prices obtained and the feverish speculations resulting therefrom. The general result, as we are informed, has been that this market has lost much more than it gained in those transactions. In purely mercantile transactions there was no general improvement over the preceding year, while they were considerably hampered by difficult recoveries and, at times, by the scarcity of money. Investments in domestic enterprises, however, have shown increased confidence and activity, which may be considered a healthful sign.

It is to be noted that the government has apparently interfered very slightly in the exchange market during the year, though the means employed to this end may not ultimately prove to be generally beneficial. Importers and the "exchange differences" account on the Treasury books have certainly derived benefit from the operation, but this has quite as certainly been counterbalanced by increased discount rates, increased costs of imported goods to the consumer, and an additional charge to the interest account at the Treasury. The means employed was the acceptance of an open credit for £2,000,000, offered by certain European bankers through the Banco Internacional of this city. It is now asserted that this credit has not been used, but this can not easily be credited without admitting that the Treasury has been steadily taking exchange through the year. It is also stated that the government has taken over some £800,000 borrowed in London by the Leopoldina railway company for the purchase of the Cantagallo railway.

The fluctuations in exchange have been unusually moderate, about 2d during the year. Good crops at the north, with an advance in the price of sugar occasioned by the abolition of export duties, have caused a steady drain of currency from this market to those of Pernambuco, Bahia and other northern cities, which is estimated to reach at least 14,000,000\$ a year. How much of this has been returned can not easily be computed. In addition to this, it is estimated that fully 6,000,000\$ more have been withdrawn for the southern provinces. As population and production increase, the requirements of these provinces will be still greater, when the periodical withdrawals of currency from this market, if the volume of circulation be not increased, will cause serious embarrassment. It is clear that these conditions of currency supply and demand do not bear out the theory of the minister of finance that the outstanding circulation

is superabundant. Another evidence of this is shown by the advance of 10,000,000\$ currency to the Bank of Brazil during the year, a measure made necessary both by stringency in the money market and the urgent necessities of the bank.

The quotations for nearly all local stocks were somewhat lower than in 1886, partially the result, perhaps, of this same stringency in the money market. At times discounts were extremely difficult and not a little uneasiness was felt over the possible result. The knowledge, however, that the Treasury can avert anything like a "run" on the banks, has tended to prevent a panic. The shareholders of the Bank of Brazil met in November, when a committee was appointed to propose amendments to the by-laws of that institution. There has been much complaint because this bank has preferred to withdraw circulation rather than extend its loans to planters on mortgage security. The bank's experience in this direction has probably afforded good reasons for the course pursued. Although no report of the committee on new by-laws has yet been made, it is currently reported that it will be in favor of the establishment of banks based on the so-called "popular banks" of Italy—a species of mutual institutions which do not appear to be at all suitable to this country. The establishment of the Banco Internacional early in the year was hailed with much enthusiasm and it has filled a very prominent part in the current transactions of this market. It has called up 12,000,000\$ of capital during the year, and the dividends declared in July and this month show that its business has been profitable. The Banco Commercial, Banco Rural, Banco do Commercio and Banco del Credere have all increased their paid-up capitals during the year, and the second has since announced that the 4th series of shares, to complete its capital, is open for subscription. The London and Brazilian Bank, Limited, also increased its capital by £125,000 during the year. In the provinces several banking enterprises have been initiated, nearly all for the purpose of loaning money and credit on new and apparently favorable terms. Unless something is speedily done to secure some sound and uniform banking system in the country, it will be difficult to avoid serious confusion and danger through these diverse undertakings.

In railways the most important operation of the year was the purchase of the Cantagallo line from the province of Rio de Janeiro by the Leopoldina company. The price paid was some 10,000,000\$. An account of the meeting of Leopoldina shareholders ratifying the purchase was published in our issue of 15th September. This company has since placed a loan of £2,500,000 in London, which is said to have been issued at 84, with 5% interest. The Srocabana company, as we are informed, has been paying the contractors for its extension in alibentes, which have been largely sold on this market at about 60 to 64 per cent.

Among transactions in miscellaneous companies, we may mention the purchase of the Nictheroy Gas Co's plant by a Belgian syndicate, the organization of two more new insurance companies, an electric light and power company, a flouring mill company, etc. The decreased productiveness of investments in public stocks and the good results obtained in several private companies has apparently led to more freedom in private investments, from which numerous banks, cotton mills, etc., are readily finding capital. Some of these new enterprises, like insurance companies, require very little actual capital and are not to be considered as actual investments, but in great part they represent the employment of available funds

for legitimate purposes. In a general sense, this is a promising condition of affairs.

In a purely commercial sense the year is generally considered unsatisfactory. The import trade has so largely changed, that more business is probably now done "on orders" than in the old way. The increasing number of cotton mills has largely supplied the demand for the coarser fabrics, while the increased duties, which went into effect on July 1st, will assuredly reduce the importation of the finer goods. Breadstuffs and other articles of prime necessity show some slight increase, but the statistics of imports in general are so meagre and behindhand that no definite idea of the year's trade can be given. The common testimony is to the effect that trade has been very dull, and is much cut up by the small order business. In fact, it is asserted by some that the dry-goods importers will eventually disappear altogether from this market, to be substituted by agents with sample books and a telegraph code. Absurd as such a complaint may appear, it is certainly being realized to some degree, and is no more absurd than the substitution of coffee buyers, with merely an office and one or two clerks, for the old exporters with their expensive establishments. The ruinous policy of the government in placing the burdens of taxation on the import trade is a serious check upon consumption and is steadily undermining the houses engaged in it. Its ultimate and natural result, which we trust may never be realized, will be the disappearance of that once responsible and influential class of importing merchants, and their substitution by ten times their number of irresponsible parties who import direct for their own needs and who will inevitably double the work of the custom house. The policy of encouraging exotic industries here and these changes in the import trade must unavoidably affect the customs revenue, upon which the Treasury so largely depends, and this in the near future must lead to other modifications in the tariff. As these are already exorbitantly high, as on kerosene, it remains to be seen how this will affect the trade relations of Brazil with other countries.

PROVINCIAL NOTES.

- There were 197 deaths in Victoria, Espírito Santo, during the past year.
- The province of Rio Grande do Sul received 5,286 immigrants during the past year.
- The December receipts of the Rio Grande do Norte custom house amounted to 17,471\$585.
- When the "spirit of progress" strikes a place, its first impulse is to go and borrow some money.
- The city council of Juiz de Fora, Minas Geraes, is considering a 300,000\$ project for sanitary improvements.
- It is announced by cable that the steamer *Carla Raggio* left Genoa on the 12th inst. with 1,700 emigrants for S. Paulo.
- A bill has passed its second reading in the S. Paulo provincial assembly authorizing the city of Casa Branca to borrow 50,000\$.
- There were 41 baptisms at the parish church in Victoria during the month of December, of which 12 were of illegitimate children.
- The new Rio Grande provincial budget authorizes contracts for the construction of five central flour mills with a capital of 20,000\$ each.
- A project has been introduced into the Rio Grande provincial assembly for the loan of 750,000\$ to the Arroio dos Ratos coal mines company.
- The total receipts of the Vianema iron works in December last amounted to 12,600\$145, against 6,995\$224 in the corresponding month of 1886.
- The December provincial revenue receipts in the province of Amazonas amounted to 314,693\$890. The general customs receipts were 933,773\$705.
- The city of Taubaté, S. Paulo, has asked permission from the provincial assembly to borrow 20,000\$ with which to build a municipal hall.
- A proposal made by a S. Paulo provincial deputy to extend the favors granted European immigrants to Chinese has been promptly defeated. It is disheartening to observe that even self-glorying S. Paulo contains obstructionists, and that these require watching.

—The December receipts of the Pará postoffice were 5,975\$771, of which 5,262\$941 were produced by the central office in the capital.

—The total receipts of the Pará custom house during the last half year were 5,344,436\$862, against 4,411,641\$777 in the same period of 1886.

—The São Paulo sub-treasury received revenues to the amount of 1,368,688\$152 in December last, against 1,766,855\$142 in the same month of the preceding year.

—The province of Rio de Janeiro has paid, under discount, the amount owing the Visconde de Nova Friburgo, balance of the purchase money of the Cantagallo railway.

—A new bank is in process of formation in São Paulo under the title "Banco Italia e Brazil." There seems to be a very general epidemic of banks just now—all destined to loan money.

—A frost is reported from Amparo, province of S. Paulo, a few days ago. A frost in January is one of the productions which the compiler of the *S. Paulo guia do immigrante* failed to notice.

—The December receipts of the Victoria custom house amounted to 19,665\$344, of which 7,720\$601 were from imports and 2,310\$000 from exports. The provincial *mesa de rendas* yielded 1,934\$743 in the same month.

—The province of Ceará exported hides, coffee, rubber, etc., to the United States to an aggregate value of 320,129\$833 in the third quarter of last year, against 214,543\$648 in the corresponding period of 1886.

—A new bank to be known as the "Banco Popular" is in process of organization in S. Paulo, and so sharp has been the demand for shares that the organizers have decided to double the capital originally fixed. It is organized in the interests of small tradesmen.

—The December receipts of cotton and sugar at Pernambuco were:

	1887	1886
Sugar..... bags	495,258	337,623
Cotton..... sacks	39,369	37,585

—An assassination occurred in Pará on the night of the 31st ult., when the assassin's effects were searched for. He was found to be the possessor of 3 revolvers, 2 daggers, and 2 knives. Clemency on such a criminal will certainly be lost.

—Two journalists of Campinas got into a personal controversy the other day and called each other some very offensive names. They afterwards met in the street and tried to satisfy "wounded honor" by blows. The result appears to be some what uncertain.

—The exports from Macaé, province of Alagoas, last year were as follows:

	1886
Sugar..... kilos	41,153,749
Cotton..... "	6,256,480
Cotton seed..... "	2,856,075
Hides..... "	215,700

—The December receipts at the Ceará custom house were 164,310\$657.

—The president of the province of Rio de Janeiro recommended the chief of police to thank the delegate at Campos for his good service during the time he occupied the post. This same delegate has been charged with creating all the disorder which has made Campos conspicuous.

—The report of the public instruction committee in the Rio Grande provincial assembly shows that there are 560 public schools in the province, of which 194 are without teachers. The attendance in 1886 was 16,012 matriculated pupils, out of an estimated school population of 70,000.

—A project has been presented to the Rio Grande provincial assembly for the creation of a new bank under the name of "Banco Colonial," with a capital of 7,000,000\$, with offices in Rio Grande, Pelotas and Porto Alegre. The object is to effect loans on real estate through the emission of mortgage bonds.

—The official returns give the province of Minas Geraes a slave population of 191,969 and a registry of 4,121 sexagenarians under the law of 1885, the registry of which was closed nearly a year ago. The number of slaves registered on 30th September, 1873, was 349,444, showing a diminution of 148,475.

—The Barão de Jaceguay has presented a project to the São Paulo provincial assembly for a great national steamship line, to run between Brazil and Europe, for the transportation of immigrants. The proposed capital is 3,500,000\$. There are reasons for believing this to be the same project advanced here by Sr. João José dos Reis Junior.

—The project authorizing the "Sociedade Promotora de Imigração" of S. Paulo to introduce 100,000 more immigrants, was passed in third reading by the S. Paulo provincial assembly on the 19th inst. It is to go into effect at once. It authorizes the payment of the following subsidies: 75\$ for each person over 12 years of age; 35\$50 for children between 7 and 12 years; and 18\$50 for those between 3 and 7 years—all in families, or joining families already here. A few persons not connected with families will receive a somewhat smaller subsidy.

—The total number of deaths in Pernambuco [city] last year was 3,256, which (estimating the population at 100,000) gives an annual rate of 32 1/2 per thousand.

—The usefulness of the São Paulo sub-treasury may be estimated by the announcement that 3,300 documents [official letters, calls, circulars, telegrams, etc.] were issued from it during the past year.

—The Pernambuco correspondent of the *Journal do Commercio* says, under date of the 10th inst., that coffee cultivation in that province has been very much extended and the product already meets local consumption at exceptional prices.

—We hear of a planter of the province of Rio de Janeiro who refused 12\$ per arroba for 14,000 arrobas of coffee, and would now accept an offer of 8\$. Here is a loss of nearly 60,000\$ to this one man, and we suspect similar cases are numerous.

—Late advices from Tietê, São Paulo, state that the next coffee crop will be one third less than the first estimates, because of injuries suffered from wind and rain. This is quite within our expectations. Something must injure the crop, and if it is not to be drought, then of course it must be rain.

—A case has arisen in Santos, growing out of the coffee speculations of last year, which will be watched with much interest. The firm of Garcia, Irmão & Co. have entered a protest with the *juiz de direito commercial* in the matter of five bills owing Lúcia Cotrim & Co. on account of differences in the purchase of 5,000 bags of coffee for their account in New York. The petitioners state that they have reasons for affirming that the coffee was not purchased, and that they have paid for the same the sum of 67,050\$200 in cash and bills to 24,500\$800, will not be paid and an action is to be begun for the recovery of the amounts paid, with interest. It is altogether probable that the courts will decide against the validity of any contract for the purchase of "futures" in New York, in which case no "bull" movement in Brazil hereafter will be possible without the deposit of cash.

—According to a provincial exchange, the city of Fortaleza, Ceará, had a total population of 26,943 in August last, of which 11,594 were males and 15,349 females; 18,555 unmarried, 6,480 married and 1,908 widowed; 9,656 could read and 17,287 could not. The city had a total of 5,833 buildings, of which 36 were government edifices, 72 *scholas* (with upper floors), 4,447 one-floor houses and 1,278 huts (*choupanas*), giving an average of 4.6 persons to a house.

—The *Journal's* Pernambuco correspondent, under date of the 10th inst., gives the following current prices in the interior for domestic products, the unit of weight being 15 kilos: cotton 6\$000, mangabeira rubber 14\$, white sugar 2\$200 to 2\$700, muscavado 1\$600, raw sugars 1\$460 to 1\$560, *relocos* 1\$200 to 1\$400, alcohol 92\$ to 95\$ and rum at 55\$ per pipe of 480 litres.

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RAILROAD NOTES

—The December receipts of the Garangola railway amounted to 38,530\$840. The expenditures are not reported.

—The October receipts of the S. Carlos do Pinhal line amounted to 68,108\$460 and the expenditures to 40,338\$740, leaving a surplus of 27,769\$720.

—The November receipts of the Paulista company amounted to 246,384\$190, and the expenditures to 80,845\$340, showing a surplus of 165,538\$850.

—The July receipts of the "Rio Grande a Bagé" line amounted to 32,645\$450 and the expenditures to 41,131\$950. The *fiscal* appears in the taking this time in making his reports.

—The Dom Pedro II line received 398,510\$110 for the transportation of cattle last year, against 193,240\$650 in 1886. This increase is a very encouraging sign, not only for the revenues of the road, but in favor of an improved quality of beef for this city.

—Work was inaugurated on the "Tijna line by the "Norte" company ["Rio de Janeiro and Northern"] on the 21st inst., and just in time as the S. Christovão company had asked to have its privilege declared lapsed. The road is divided into two sections—from Rua Mariz e Barros to the terminal point of the S. Christovão tramway, the second up the *serra* to Boa Vista. It is said that the journey on this line will be made in half an hour from the centre of the city. If the postoffice be taken as the "centre," the promise will not be kept.

—The *Railway News* of the 24th ult. contains the prospectus of the Rio de Janeiro and Northern Railway Company, Limited. The capital of the company is 500,000, of which one-half in preferred shares, and authority is reserved to issue an equal sum in debentures. Proposals are invited for 250,000 six per cent. debentures, for 250,000 of seven per cent. cumulative preference shares and 100,000 in ordinary shares. Price of issue is 90 per cent. on debentures and 118 per cent. share. Mr. D. M. Fox is among the directors and Sr. Laiz Plínio de Oliveira will join the board upon completion of the purchase. The terms of purchase for the 45 kilometres completed and the privilege for the balance of the line are 250,000 in ordinary shares, 250,000 in preference shares and 250,000 in debentures.

COFFEE NOTES

—"The coffee crop in 1889 [Ceará] should be nil. The planters have uselessly called for the December rains."—*O Paiz*, Jan. 20.

—The Pernambuco correspondent of the *Journal do Commercio* says, under date of the 10th inst., that coffee cultivation in that province has been very much extended and the product already meets local consumption at exceptional prices.

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LOCAL NOTES

—The sculptor Bernardelli has secured a contract for the monument to the Duque de Caxias.

—The gunboat *Cabedello* was launched at the navy yard here on the 14th.

—The military police force of this city cost 63,690\$505 in December.

—Repairs amounting to 5,030\$550 were authorized by the minister of empire on the 17th to render the Chamber of Deputies habitable.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 18th states that two defenders of the present cabinet, in the stipendiary press, are to be made *conselheiros*. They have earned the honor, no doubt.

—Bolivia ought to be a happy country. Its chamber of deputies has fixed its military force for the current year at 1,460 men, and it has no use for a navy.

—The Princess Regent seems to have upset all calculations. Sr. Pereira da Silva goes into the Senate with the name of a mummy, h stewed upon him by the amiable editor of the *Diário de Notícias*.

—Yonk Turks left here for Macaé on the 20th on the national steamer. It looks as though President Caio had organized a "*sociedade promotora*" up in Alagoas!

—According to the *Journal's* investigations, there are now only 204 slaves in Brazil owned and registered by religious orders, and 11 by religious brotherhoods. Nearly all of these [203] are held in the province of Maranhão.

—The rains and cloudy skies of the past ten days have kept the temperature of this city at a tolerably comfortable point. The great danger is the fright which planters will get over the destruction of their coffee by mildew.

—A curious friend of ours counted 33 heggars on Saturday last between Rua 1º de Março and Rua da Urugayana—and it was not a very good day for beggars either. Some of them are now trying to establish toll-barriers by lying down across the sidewalks.

—We have heard of a man who said he would rather go to shed than to Boston, and the wife of an Italian seems to have had a somewhat similar dislike to Cascardia, in the suburbs of this city. Her husband convinced her that her objections were groundless by stabbing and killing her, and the jury on the 18th convicted him. He was condemned to 12 years imprisonment with hard labor, whereas he should have been hung.

—The *Gazeta de Notícias* of the 21st inst. says that a diplomatic scandal has just come to light, and that a prominent Brazilian minister in Europe will shortly be retired from service because of it. The offense appears to have been an unusually frank statement by this minister to the chief of the state to which he is accredited [one of the Latin states] that the Emperor was entirely insane (*intencionalmente doido*) and would never govern his country any more. A colleague reported him, and he will soon know that a minister may not talk as freely as a journalist.

—Why will the Germans insist on calling a man *here*, when they mean *him*?

—Decree No. 9,841, dated on the 14th inst., extends the contract with the Hamburg colonization society for another period of five years.

—The American packet *Finance* is expected to arrive from New York on the 26th inst., and will leave here February 4th on her return voyage.

—Late advices from Buenos Aires state that cholera has disappeared at Salta, and there are now but a few cases of cholera.

—Since our last issue there has been a marked diminution in the epidemic of cholera at Santiago and Valparaíso, Chili.

—A local colleague estimates the value of the presents sent to the Pope on the occasion of the jubilee at 60,000,000 francs. Who would not be the Pope?

—The president of the board of health has addressed a letter to the municipal council in regard to the creation of public laundries and the regulation of laundresses.

—The minister of agriculture has commissioned Dr. Lacerda, of the Museu Nacional, to go immediately to Matto Grosso to study an epizootic disease affecting the cattle of that province.

—It is sufficient to note that Dr. Figueiredo Magalhães declines to accept Dr. Monat's offer to submit their dispute to a jury of 50 physicians, Dr. F. knows his colleagues too well for that.

—The *European Mail* of the 24th ult. states that the flour mill machinery for Messrs. Gianelli & Co., of this city, was then being shipped by the manufacturers. It is said that the machinery will have a capacity of 80 tons of flour per day.

—A telegram to the *Diário de Notícias* published on the 20th says: "D. José Pereira da Silva Barros is going to Tanguá immediately after Easter Sunday. Tanguá has plenty of time to prepare for D. José's appearance. Who is D. José anyway?"

—The Royal Mail company announces a change in its time table beginning on March 15th next. On and after that date the sailings will be fortnightly, on every alternate Thursday from Southampton and on every alternate Tuesday from Rio de Janeiro, homeward.

—What in the world is the matter with this "*santa terra*" now? Criminal seductions are becoming of almost daily occurrence lately, and some of them exceptionally brutal in character. Are the authorities waiting to have the people take the execution of justice into their own hands?

—No less than 70 young gentlemen were licensed to kill by the Academy of Medicine on the 19th. The Princess Regent was present at the ceremony, and her kind heart must have been at the impending danger to her future subjects. Fortunately many of them will go into politics.

—Three suspicious characters were seen hurrying along the street, with boxes under their arms, on the morning of the 19th inst. An alarm was given and the fellows were pursued. One was captured and his boxes found to contain watches, rings and other articles of jewelry. He confessed having broken into a Run do Hospício shop, with his two companions.

—"In the presence of the virtuous prelate 180 priests made their spiritual retirement, which was closed to-day with the greatest expansions of joy." This is the text of a telegram from S. Paulo published in the *Journal do Commercio* of the 20th. The reasons for the joyful expansions are not clear. Were the priests hungry, or were they rejoicing that their temporary retirement had come to an end?

—The numerous friends here in Brazil of Rev. W. M. Brown, formerly agent for the American Bible Society, will be glad to hear that he has accepted an invitation from a Congregational church in Blue Rapids, Kansas, to settle there as its pastor. Mr. Brown was widely known and liked in this country, and his loss was keenly felt by a large circle of friends. His best wishes will follow him to his new home.

—At a general meeting of the British Subscription Library on the 17th inst. the treasurer presented a report which is full of hope for the future of this old and useful institution. In July last a determined effort was inaugurated to infuse new life into the association. It then owed 1,200\$, its membership had largely fallen off, and very little general interest was felt in its affairs. The first step was a removal to new and more pleasant quarters at No. 53, Rua dos Ourives, and then a vigorous canvass was made for new subscribers. The result is that the debt has been reduced to about 400\$, and the balance against the library on last year's administration, notwithstanding costs of moving and increased expenditures, was only 84\$460, with liabilities amounting to 320\$. This is certainly a good showing for six months' work, and will lead, we trust, to the total extinction of the debt during the current year. About 30 new subscribers were obtained. A deficit is anticipated for the current year, but this we hope will be met by new subscriptions. Certainly, old residents of Rio and the large business houses connected with its trade might easily contribute more than the amount required. At present the Library is the only public institution in the place connected with the English-speaking colony, and as its influence is positively good, it ought to be liberally supported. We are glad to see that it is proposed to purchase new issues of the Tauchnitz edition for current use.

and the new pier promised some two years ago has been nothing more than a promise. In the present instance the loading of lighters was further embarrassed by diverse destinations of cargo, which further caused delay. If shippers commence earlier, and the gates of the docks are also opened sooner, a part of the delay will be avoided.

change
-5.40
-5.41
-5.44
-5.55
-5.48
-5.44
-5.52
-5.56
-5.30
-5.26
-5.23
-5.13
-5.53
-6.67
-6.60
-5.60
-5.65

Market quiet : Good Average.....	12,000 "
Steamers loading for United States	54650
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100	Normalizaç. Insc.	20
50	Genial do	31
200	hyp. nites Banco C. Real do Brazil [60%]	73½

* Calling at intermediate ports.

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" 31	La Plata	"
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" 15	Tagus	Santos, Montevideo and Buenos Aires.

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